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§7-438.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Behavioral health services” means prevention, intervention, and treatment services for the social–emotional, psychological, behavioral, and physical health of students, including mental health and substance abuse disorders.

(3) (i) “Community–partnered school behavioral health services program” means a program that provides behavioral health services to students by community behavioral health providers in partnership with public schools and families that augment the behavioral health services and supports provided by public schools.

(ii) “Community–partnered school behavioral health services program” does not include school–based health centers.

(b) (1) The Department, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, county boards, and other interested stakeholders, as determined by the Department, shall develop and implement a standardized reporting system to determine the effectiveness of community–partnered school behavioral health services programs.

(2) The standardized reporting system developed under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall use measures that collect data on the outcomes of students who receive behavioral health services from community–partnered school behavioral health services programs, including a student’s academic, behavioral, social, and emotional functioning and progress.

(c) On or before December 1, 2017, and every 2 years thereafter, the Department shall submit a report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly that provides an analysis of the effectiveness of community–partnered school behavioral health services programs.

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